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varieties of *Prunus* are ease of propagation, absence of suckers and the ability to serve as rootstock that is compatible with all cherries.

‘VSL-2’ was first asexually propagated in 1986 by the inventor at the Breeding Station in Krymsk, Russia. The method used was softwood cuttings. The distinguishing traits have been determined stable and are reproduced true to type in successive generations.

## SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and represent the distinguishing characteristics of the new cultivar. These traits in combination distinguish ‘VSL-2’ from all other existing varieties of *Prunus*. ‘VSL-2’ has not been tested under all possible conditions and phenotypic differences may be observed with variations in environmental, climatic, and cultural conditions, however, without any variance in genotype.

1. ‘VSL-2’ serves as rootstock that is compatible with all other cherries.
2. ‘VSL-2’ propagates well by softwood cuttings, stool beds, and in vitro.
3. ‘VSL-2’ does not produce suckers.
4. ‘VSL-2’ exhibits a dwarf form.
5. ‘VSL-2’ is vigorous.
6. ‘VSL-2’ differs from the female parent *Prunus fruticosa* by increased vigor, large leaves, pink flowers, sour fruit, and absence of suckers.
7. ‘VSL-2’ differs from the male parent *Prunus lannesiana* by its smaller size, dark red, sour fruit, ease of propagation, and absence of stipules.

## BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANT

The following is a detailed botanical description of the new rootstock variety *Prunus* ‘VSL-2’. Observations, measurements, values, and comparisons were collected in McMinnville, Oregon from the inventor. The foliage, flower and fruit exhibited by this cultivar are of no economic or commercial value, therefore





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- Flower shape: Rotate.
- Bud dimensions: 3 mm. in width and 3 mm. in length.
- Bud color: 56C.
- Time of bloom: Flowers bloom at when plant is 1 year and flowers last for 7-8
- 5 days.
- Flower diameter: 2.5-3 cm. in diameter.
- Flower depth (throat): 2-2.5 mm. in depth.
- Bloom quantity: 40-50 flowers per branch.
- Number of petals: Five petals in number.
- 10 Fused or unfused: Petals are unfused.
- Petal shape: Oval.
- Petal margin: Entire and wavy.
- Flower color fully opened (upper and lower surfaces): 56D.
- Dimensions of peduncle: 2 cm. in length and 1 mm. in width.
- 15 Color of peduncle: 144A.
- Surface of peduncle: Glabrous surface.
- Calyx dimensions: 2-3 mm. in length and 7-8 mm. in width.
- Calyx surface: Glabrous surface.
- Pubescence: Absent.
- 20 Calyx color: 152A.
- Number of sepals: Five sepals in number.
- Natural flowering season: Spring.
- Persistent or self-cleaning: Self-cleaning.
- Fragrance: None.
- 25 Reproductive organs:
- Stamen number: Polyandrous. 20-25 stamens and unequal lengths.
- Stamen color: 145C.
- Anther shape: Round with stamen attached at center of dorsal surface.
- Anther color: 9B.
- 30 Anther dimensions: 1 mm. in length and 1 mm. in width.
- Amount of pollen: Heavy amount.

Color of pollen: 9B.

Pistil: One in number.

Pistil color: 144C.

Pistil dimensions: 1 cm. in length and .50 mm. in width.

5      Style color: 144C.

Style shape: Elongate.

Style dimensions: 1mm. in length and .50 mm. width.

Ovary dimensions: 2 mm. in length and 2 mm. in width.

Ovary color: 144B.

10      Ovary position: Superior.

TOGETHER

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